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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/247,418 | 02/10/1999 | HOLGER EGGERS | MO-5041/WW-5 | 7618 |

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New York, NY 10017

EXAMINER

KRUER, KEVIN R

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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1773

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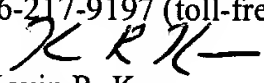
Commissioner for Patents

Enclosed herein is an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 originally filed February 10, 1999. A review of the application revealed that previously considered reference AL, European Patent 764679, was not initialed. The reference has been considered. The application is allowable for the reasons noted in the Reasons for Allowance mailed 5/6/2004

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kevin R Kruer whose telephone number is 571-272-1510. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30a.m. to 5:00p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carol Chaney, can be reached at 571-272-1284. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kevin R. Kruer
Patent Examiner-Art Unit 1773